

Problem/Issue Understanding Statement

US 34 Improvement Gletty Road, Sandwich, IL to Chilton Way, Plano, IL Including CWG #1 Input

Safety and Concerns

- Right-of-way restrictions - narrow lanes
- Lane and shoulder widths change throughout the project
- Increased number of trucks
- Turn lane location and length
- Driveways
- Lighting
- Schools and pedestrians – crossing US 34
- Limited accommodation for delivery trucks for downtown businesses
- Location of railroad in relation to US 34 (at-grade crossings)
- Utilities – possibly major impacts – sewer, water main, gas, cable, electric
 - Sewer down middle of US 34
 - Sanitary sewer may be old
- Traffic signals – only 1 of the 8 signals in the project area is equipped with Opticom – emitter on both emergency vehicles and lights that allow for the safe clearing through intersections. Signals in City of Sandwich are not equipped with pre-emption sensors for emergency equipment nor are they interconnected.

Travel time

- Congestion is an issue.
- Traffic volumes are anticipated to increase due to increased growth and development in the region
- There are a number of traffic lights – eight (8) in project area. Some seem unnecessary because they were warranted by future projected traffic from development that has not taken place yet. There will be a 9th signal at Four Winds Boulevard upon completion.
- Movement of goods
- Access management

Shared use corridor

- Major arterial in region through DeKalb, Kendall and LaSalle Counties.
- Vehicle mix includes private cars, work trucks, vans, farm trucks, motorcycles, RVs and tractor-trailers.

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Lack of Mode Choices

- US 34 is not comfortable for bicyclists
- Pedestrian and bicycle use of the corridor is limited
- Sidewalk is not continuous
- Lacking alternate routes on city and county systems

Environmental Issues

- Farmland
- Air Quality
- Trees along right-of-way
- Historic properties

Community issues

Sandwich/Plano area is host to several annual events and activities including the:

- Sandwich Fair
- Antique Show –monthly
- Fall Festival of Crafts
- Freedom Days – July 4th
- Taste of Sandwich
- Downtown Festival
- 'More on 34' Fathers Day Weekend – garage sale from Galesburg to Sandwich
- Gas Engine/ Tractor Show
- DeKalb County Fair
- Farming is a major component of the region's economy but increased development pressure can result in conversion of prime farmland to non-agricultural uses.
- Parking is limited for downtown businesses
- Overnight parking
- Property Impacts – properties up to the edge of right-of-way
- Downtown impacts